

# HOUSE BILL 858

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By: **Montgomery County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2010

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 24, 2010

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Montgomery County – Leghold or Body–Gripping Traps – Prohibition**

3 **MC 16–10**

4 FOR the purpose of expanding the application of the prohibition against the use,  
5 setting, placement, or maintenance of a leghold or body–gripping trap in  
6 Montgomery County; making a certain technical correction; making a stylistic  
7 change; and generally relating to the leghold or body–gripping trap prohibition  
8 in Montgomery County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Natural Resources  
11 Section 10–410(o)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

14 BY adding to  
15 Article – Natural Resources  
16 Section 10–410(o–1)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 **Article – Natural Resources**

2 10–410.

3 (o) (1) In Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, [Montgomery,] and Prince  
 4 George’s counties, a person may not use, set, place, or maintain any steel jaw leghold  
 5 trap on land. The steel jaw leghold trap may be used for the capture of fur-bearing  
 6 mammals in water only.

7 (2) This subsection does not apply to:

8 (i) Traps set on farmland by the owner of the farmland, by the  
 9 owner’s agent or tenant, owner’s lessee, or by any member of the owner’s or tenant’s  
 10 immediate family who resides on the farmland; or

11 (ii) Traps set by an authorized agent of the [Maryland Forest,  
 12 Park and Wildlife Service] DEPARTMENT who exercises the [agent’s] duties OF THE  
 13 AGENT for wildlife control under guidelines established by the Department.

14 **(O-1) (1) IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, A PERSON MAY NOT USE, SET,  
 15 PLACE, OR MAINTAIN A LEGHOLD OR BODY-GRIPPING TRAP.**

16 **(2) THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A TRAP SET BY AN  
 17 AUTHORIZED AGENT OF THE DEPARTMENT WHO EXERCISES THE DUTIES OF THE  
 18 AGENT FOR WILDLIFE CONTROL UNDER GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE  
 19 DEPARTMENT.**

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
 21 July 1, 2010.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.